

3627



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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<h1>TRANSMITTAL FORM</h1> <p>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</p>	Application Number	09/682,467	
	Filing Date	06 September 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Rowley	
	Group Art Unit	3627	
	Examiner Name	Unknown	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	267	Attorney Docket Number	39288.0112

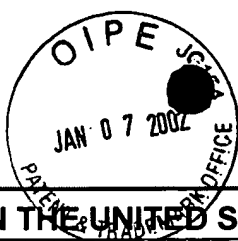
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Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Louis F. Wagner, Esq.
Signature	
Date	November 9, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: November 9, 2001			
Typed or printed name	Louis F. Wagner		
Signature		Date	November 9, 2001

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Rowley **Examiner:** Unknown  
**Serial #:** 09/682,467 **Art Unit:** 3627  
**Filing Date:** 06 September 2001 **Date:** 09 November 2001  
**Title:** Bendable Polymer-Lined Water Heater Connector

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
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**Information Disclosure Statement**

This Information Disclosure Statement is made within the earlier of: (1) three months after the filing date of the application §1.97(b)(1); (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application §1.97(b)(2); or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits §1.97(b)(3). Therefore, this statement is considered timely under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).

According to the terms of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g), this Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) exists. While this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b), it is not intended to constitute admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "material to patentability" under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h) for this invention unless specifically designated.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references, which were uncovered by the applicant. Copies of these references are also submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449, as well as summaries of the references.

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AA	US 3,013,310	Foster et al.	19-Dec-1961
	Title	Method of Forming Flanges on the Ends of Thermoplastic Pipe	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AB	US 3,470,900	Rothausser	07-Oct-1969

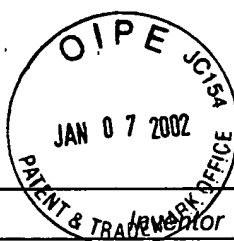


Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AC	US 3,719,209	Rush et al.	06-Mar-1973
Title: Arcuate Tubular Articles of Rigid Plastic			
AD	US 3,723,946	Weatherup et al.	27-Mar-1973
Title: Cable Connector			
AE	US 3,843,300	McFarlane	22-Oct-1974
Title: Tip Forming Machine and Process			
AF	US 3,917,497	Stickler	04-Nov-1975
Title: Method and Apparatus for Forming Two Inteerfitting Preformed Parts by Heat Fusion of Said Parts			
AG	US 3,929,958	Parmann	30-Dec-1975
Title: Process for Producing Radially-Expanded Socket Ends on Thermoplastic Pipe Lengths			
AH	US 4,005,879	Berger et al.	01-Feb-1977
Title: Conduit Joint			
AI	US 4,009,982	Maier	01-Mar-1977
Title: Mechanism for Forming an Enlarged Coupling on the Ends of Plastic Pipe			
AJ	US 4,014,568	Carter et al.	29-Mar-1977
Title: Pipe Joint			
AK	US 4,039,212	Skarud	02-Aug-1977
Title: Hose End Fittings			

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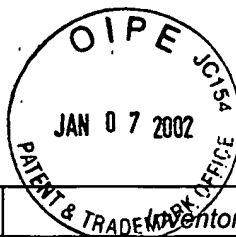
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Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BA	US 4,081,190	Itzler	29-Mar-1978
	Title	Plumbing Device	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BB	US 4,113,813	Wilson	12-Sep-1978
	Title	Method of Preparing and Belling Thermoplastic Pipe with Thickened Walls	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BC	US 4,135,961	Yoshizawa et al.	23-Jan-1979
	Title	Method of Molding a Socket Part on a Synthetic Resinous Pipe End	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BD	US 4,140,739	Cotton	20-Feb-1979
	Title	Method for Making Flanged Tubing	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BE	US 4,152,817	Cotton	08-May-1979
	Title	Method of Joining Plastic Pipe to Other Pipe	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BF	US 4,175,917	Cotton	27-Nov-1979
	Title	Apparatus for Forming Integral Tubing and Washer	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BG	US 4,177,237	Ueno et al.	04-Dec-1979
	Title	Method of Molding Socket of Plastic Resin Tube	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BH	US 4,264,490	Berejka	28-Apr-1981
	Title	Composition of a Polyethylene and Isobutylene Copolymer	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BI	US 4,209,597	Bremholt	24-Jun-1980
	Title	Process for Extruding and Cross-Linking Olefin Polymers, Diolefin Polymers and Copolymers of Olefins and Diolefins and Copolymerizable Monomers	

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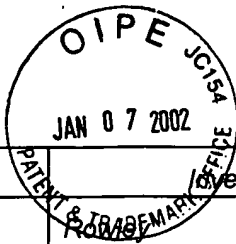


Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BJ	US 4,264,661	Brandolf	28-Apr-1981
	Title	Thermoplastic Article and Process for Manufacture of Same	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BK	US 4,266,815	Cross	12-May-1981
	Title	Connectors	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CA	US 4,316,870	Rowley	23-Feb-1982
	Title	Plastic Tube, Coupling, and Method of Forming Same	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CB	US 4,342,800	Changani et al.	03-Aug-1982
	Title	Polymeric Articles	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CC	US 4,343,800	Kope et al.	10-Aug-1982
	Title	1-Aryloxy-2-Hydroxy-3[(Heterocyclic-Substituted Alkyl)-Amino]Propoanes and Salts Thereof	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CD	US 4,343,864	Berejka	10-Aug-1982
	Title	Method of Sealing an Item in a Covering Comprising a Composition of a Polyethylene and Isobutylene Copolymer	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CE	US 4,446,084	Rowley	01-May-1984
	Title	Plastic Tube Coupling and Apparatus for Forming	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CF	US 4,525,136	Rowley	24-Jun-1985
	Title	Application for Forming a Plastic Tube Coupling	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CG	US 4,575,044	Gentry	11-Mar-1986
	Title	Lubricator Section	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CH	US 4,614,208	Skarelius	30-Sep-1986
	Title	Gaseous Diffusion Resistant Tube	

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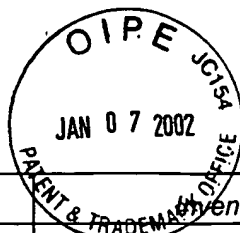
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Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CI	US 4,664,423	Rowley	12-May-1987
	Title	Polybutylene Tube Coupling and Method for Making It	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CJ	US 4,690,632	Carrow	01-Sep-1987
	Title	Method and Apparatus for molding Hollow Articles	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
CK	US 4,783,303	Imgram	08-Nov-1988
	Title	Method of Processing Semifinished Products made of Crosslinked Plastic Material	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DA	US 4,803,033	Rowley	07-Feb-1989
	Title	Method of Forming a Flange or Bellows in a Plastic Tube	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DB	US 4,887,852	Hancock	19-Dec-1989
	Title	Pipe Connector	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DC	US 4,991,876	Mulvey	12-Feb-1991
	Title	Connector Assembly for Hot Water Heaters and Other Appliances	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DD	US 5,364,135	Anderson	15-Nov-1994
	Title	End Fitting for Flexible Conduit	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DE	US 5,527,503	Rowley	18-Jun-1996
	Title	Method for Belling Tubing Ends without Wall Thinning	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DF	US 5,622,670	Rowley	22-Apr-1997
	Title	Process for Fabricating Crosslinked Polyethylene Tubing Ends	

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Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DG	US 5,833,279	Rowley	10-Nov-1998
	Title	Crosslinked Polyethylene Tubing Ends	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
DH	US 5,861,200	Rowley	19-Jan-1999
	Title	Thin Wall Copper Sleeve for All Plastic Conduit	

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### Foreign Patent Documents

Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AL	CA 938,952	Fiberglass Resources Corp.	25-Dec-1973
	Title	Pipe Joint	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AM	DE 28 38 731	Wavin B.V.	20-Mar-1980
	Title	Polyethylene pipe with integral coupling sleeve at one end - has sleeve wall thicker than pipe wall to improve dimensional stability	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AN	GB 750,906	Cromwell & Co.	20-Jun-1956
	Title	Means and Process for Sealing Joints and Apertures	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AO	GB 1,172,566	Ruberoid Co. Ltd.	03-Dec-1969
	Title	Improvements Relating to Pipe Unions	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AP	GB 1,421,530	Pryor	21-Jan-1976
	Title	Pipe or Tube Coupling	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
AQ	EP 033 587 A1	Wirsbo Bruks Aktiebolag	12-Aug-1981
	Title	Improvements in and Relating to the Preparation of Shaped Crosslinked Materials	
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BL	WO 84/01988	Wirsbo Bruks Aktiebolag	24-May-1984

	Title 3-Layer Tube Forming Apparatus		
Ref. #	Patent #	Inventor	Publication Date
BM	WO 85/03251	Wirsbo Bruks Aktiebolag	01-Aug-1985
	Title Method of Manufacturing a Plastic Tube		

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***Other Documents***

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No other documents are in the possession of the applicant at this time.

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***Presentation at National Meetings***

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To the knowledge of the applicant, there has been no presentation of this subject matter at National meetings.

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***Presentations at Invited Seminars***

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To the knowledge of the applicant, there has been no presentation of this subject matter at invited seminars.



Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs  
Louis F. Wagner, Esq.

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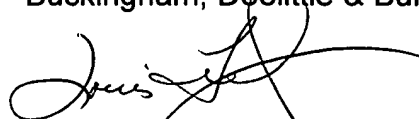
**Best Information Available**

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This Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to the undersigned at that date. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLP



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